



STUDIO BETA CARLOS HERRAIZ > SWAB BARCELONA

5-8.10.2023



STUDIO BETA

CARLOS HERRAIZ

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In the same way that many animals need to shed their skin, the butterfly needs the chrysalis state so that metamorphosis, the process of transformation from larva to butterfly, can take place. Carlos Herraiz does the same with hundreds of fabrics he has found and collected over the years.

Sheets, tablecloths, old paintings, fabrics transformed by rust and mould, and remnants of clothes returned by the sea tide, form a textile collection in which they act as mementos of the experiences lived in the places where they were found. Through the processes of sewing, embroidering, braiding, and linking, Herraiz transforms scraps and flotsam into delicate beings, forever fragile and almost frozen in time, like distant memories, in the liminal space between moult and chrysalis.

This installation is accompanied by a new series of large-scale, process-based abstract paintings to be exhibited for the first time at the fair. This new body of work marks the artist's return to the medium, and another milestone in the evolution of his craft.

His new series of paintings was produced over spring and summer of 2023 at the artist's refuge in the mountains surrounding Barcelona. This place affords Herraiz time and space to connect with himself, with nature, and with the two seemingly separate artistic processes that coalesce in this series.

Herraiz uses extracts from the textile archive from which the works in 'MUDA' were born, and attaches them to canvases that have undergone a long and slow process of transformation; being painted throughout the day, only to be altered, ripped, or torn, by the end of it. Every element of the work undergoes a transformational process, and only exists for a moment before morphing into another. They become but reflections of what once was, a fading echo in the distance.

In these experimental, hybrid works, the canvas ceases to be rigid and tense. Herraiz approaches the material and the medium from its fragility and vulnerability. They act as an anchoring point between the artist's past and present practice.



Encuentro

Oil paint and found textiles on canvas.
175 x 150 cm
Barcelona, 2023

5.300,00 EUR



Espacio entre dos

Oil paint and found textiles on canvas.
195 x 175 cm
Barcelona, 2023

7.300,00 EUR



Crisálidas

Vegetable paper, silk paper, paint, ink, photographs, plaster and found textiles between 2019 and 2023 around Edinburgh, Berlin, Barcelona, Madrid, Cape Town and East London (South Africa).
Barcelona, 2023

500,00 EUR

> CARLOS HERRAIZ

Carlos Herraiz (b. 1995) is a multidisciplinary artist from Barcelona, Spain. The son and grandson of artists, Herraiz became drawn to art in the early years of his childhood, and often spent time drawing with his father at home, in school, and in the family home in the outskirts of his home city. He moved to Edinburgh at the age of 18 to study at the Leith School of Art, where he started exploring what are now central themes in his practice, focusing on the passage of time, on absence and presence, and the mark we leave as humans in our environment.

Herraiz explored these concepts through figurative and abstract painting, while continuing his studies at the Glasgow School of Art and the Barcelona Academy of Art. These themes are still very much present in his practice, which he continuously developed through artistic residencies in Scotland, Greece, Germany, and South Africa.

Painting on canvas has been the form of expression of his work, yet he aspires to cross that boundary and open other spaces for exploration and play. Venturing into photography, sculpture, and assemblage, he develops new material and conceptual processes which allow him to create new ways to connect and feel connected to others through artistic production.

Carlos Herraiz has held solo exhibitions in Barcelona, most recently 'MUDA' with Studio Beta in 2023, and participated in group exhibitions in Glasgow, Barcelona, and Edinburgh. He received the Spoon Prize at the Leith School of Art, and was nominated for the Richard Ford Award.

> STUDIO BETA

STUDIO **BETA** is a platform for a new generation of artists, collectors, supporters and lovers of art. We produce solo and group exhibitions, host an online gallery, assist in building new collections of contemporary art, and promote contemporary artists to a worldwide audience.

The word 'studio' is a reference to our history and an important part of our identity. First opened as a painting and photography atelier in 2018, Studio Beta was a space of experimentation, exchange and collaboration for a collective of artists of different backgrounds working across different media.

After developing and organizing artist-run, collaborative projects and events as a project space, Studio Beta officially opened its doors as a gallery in 2021, driven by a desire to expand beyond the boundaries of our community, and seek new voices with less representation in the mainstream market. Throughout 2021 and 2022, Studio Beta produced 10 solo and group exhibitions in Berlin, featuring painting, sculpture, photography, light and video installations, and performances by artists from over 15 countries. In 2023, Studio Beta celebrated its first venture into the cultural landscape in Barcelona with 'MUDA', a solo exhibition by Carlos Herraiz.

True to our mission to support art and emerging artists, we regularly seek new creative partnerships, with a special interest in intercultural exchange and interdisciplinary work.

For artwork catalogue and info

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Barcelona | Berlin

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